

From: Mark W Noakes
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/16/01 11:42am
Subject: microsoft decision

To whom it may concern,

I understand that you are looking for commentary on the recent Microsoft decision.

Frankly, I believe that the planned decision does not go far enough to constrain Microsoft. Microsoft has already proven that they have ignored previous oversight/probation initiatives and that they will continue their previous practices. Why should the govt trust them?

Their new operating system, Windows XP, which further degrades customer choices, proves MS's continued intent to ignore any restrictions. I assume that you are aware that Microsoft is now threatening patent violation action against companies that work to provide software interoperability with Microsoft products. The best most recent example is Windows Media.

I would challenge the argument that we should let Microsoft off the hook because it's the best thing out there. I use Microsoft Office because I have to, not because I think it's great. The sole reason is for the sake of compatibility with so many of the people that we communicate with across the country. I find Office in general and MS Word in particular to be a bloated poorly performing package that I spend way too much time trying to undo what it thinks I want it to do instead of what I want it to do. That's the general spirit of MS; they try to tell you what you want instead of letting you decide what you want and then force it on the end user.

Please continue to pursue Microsoft in the spirit of the original antitrust suit.

Sincerely,

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